



U.S. Department of Justice
United States Attorney
District of Kansas

NEWS RELEASE

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OTTAWA, KANSAS MAN SENTENCED FOR MANUFACTURING METHAMPHETAMINE

KANSAS CITY, Kan. – United States Attorney Eric Melgren announced that **Rollie P. Brooks**, 41, Ottawa, Kansas, was sentenced today in U.S. District Court in Kansas City, Kansas to **fifteen years in federal prison, to be followed by eight years of supervised release.**

Melgren said that Brooks was convicted on February 2, 2004, following a five day jury trial, of one count of attempting to manufacture methamphetamine; one count of manufacturing methamphetamine; one count of possessing a silencer; one count of possessing a firearm in furtherance of a drug trafficking crime; and nine counts of possessing pseudoephedrine to use in the manufacture of methamphetamine.

Melgren stated that according to evidence presented at trial, the Lawrence Police Department was notified by the Super Target, Lawrence, Kansas, on February 11, 2003, that for the third day in a row Brooks had purchased boxes of ephedrine/pseudoephedrine from the store. Following an investigation a warrant was executed and officers found a working methamphetamine laboratory in an RV belonging to Brooks. Officers found empty cold pill boxes, and a receipt for the purchase of cold pills in a pickup belonging to Brooks parked next to the RV. Upon arrest officers found drug paraphernalia, methamphetamine, a silencer and a handgun in the vehicle.

Melgren commended the excellent work of the Lawrence Police Department Drug Enforcement Unit, the Franklin County Drug Enforcement Unit, the Douglas County Drug Enforcement Unit and the Bureau of Alcohol, Tobacco, Firearms and Explosives in this investigation, the Super Target store for alerting the authorities to the suspicious activity, and Assistant U.S. Attorney Terra Morehead and Special Assistant U.S. Attorney Tristram Hunt in this prosecution.